RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE TC/A.U. 1771

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Applicants:

Jeffrey Mark LaFortune

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Examiner: Date:

Matzek, Matthew D. March 23, 2006

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December 29, 2003 SURFACE CHARGE

MANIPULATION FOR IMPROVED FLUID INTAKE RATES OF ABSORBENT

COMPOSITES

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Amendment After Final Rejection Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and in response to the Office Action in which the Examiner finally rejected claims 1 - 19 and which was mailed on January 23, 2006, the following amendments and remarks are submitted for your consideration. These amendments and remarks are offered in order to either reduce or, at the least more clearly define, the differences between the Applicants' position and that of the Examiner.

Amendments to the Specifications begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

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